Patem Claims

Drinks machine, in particular a coffee machine, with an entry device for solid cleaning agent, in particular in pressed form, **characterized by** an automatically dosing, enclosed dosage device (1) for the cleaning agent, which includes a spout (10), a storage container (4) protected from the spout (10) and a dosage unit (8).

- 2. Drinks machine according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** the dosage unit (8) contains at least one movable dosage chamber (9) through which a certain predetermined amount of cleaning agent can be fed from the storage container (4) into the spout (10).
- 3. Drinks machine according to Claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the dosage unit (8) contains a sensor (17) in the spout (10) for determining the presence and/or absence of cleaning agent.
- 4. Drinks machine according to one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the dosage unit (8) contains a shut-off device (15) for the spout (10).
- 5. Drinks machine according to Claims 3 and 4, **characterized in that** the shut-off device (15) is arranged after the sensor (17) in the direction of flow.
- 6. Drinks machine according to one of the Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the dosage unit includes a dosage wheel (7) with a number of dosage chambers (9) arranged at intervals to one another and which can be consecutively aligned flush with the spout (10).
- 7. Drinks machine according to Claim 6, characterized in that the dosage wheel (7) can be driven about a vertical axis and which includes the lower boundary of the storage container (4) in the direction of gravity and that the spout (10) is arranged below the dosage wheel (7).



- 8. Drinks machine according to Claim 7, **characterized in that** the dosage wheel (7) is formed as a disc and the dosage chambers (9) are formed as through-openings through the disc.
- 9. Drinks machine according to one of the Claims 2 to 8, **characterized in that** a scraper (11) is provided in the region above the spout (10) to protect the dosage chamber (9) aligned flush with the spout (10) from the storage container (4).
- 10. Drinks machine according to one of the Claims 1 to 9, **characterized by** the application of cleaning agent in granular form.
- 11. Drinks machine according to Claims 2 and 10, **characterized in that** the dosage chamber (9) is formed for only accepting one single granulate grain.
- 12. Drinks machine according to one of the Claims 1 to 11, **characterized in that** the dosage device (1) can be separated into parts, wherein the storage container (4) consists of a housing (4a) which can be removed from a base section (6), the base section (6) includes a dosage wheel (7) of the dosage unit (8) and the base section (6) can be removed from a beam (3) which includes the drive (13, 14) of the dosage wheel (7).
- 13. Drinks machine according to one of the Claims 1 to 12, characterized by a device (15, 16, 17) for preventing an unwanted feed of cleaning agent.
- 14. Drinks machine according to one of the Claims 1 to 13, characterized by a device (19) for determining the filling level in the storage container (4).
- 15. Drinks machine according to Claim 14 characterized in that the device (19) exhibits a part (7c) loaded by the weight of the cleaning agent in the storage container (4), a spring (20) countering the weight of the cleaning agent and loading the part (7c) and a switching device (23, 24), through which the movement of the part (7c) due to the effect of the spring (20) can be determined.

16. Dosage device for a solid cleaning agent, in particular in pressed form, for a drinks machine according to one of the Claims 1 to 15, **characterized by** its enclosed form and automatic dosage with a spout (10), a storage container (4) protected from the spout (10), a dosage unit (8) and connection means (18) for joining to the drinks machine.